

PHENOMENON OF DEMOCRACY IN THE REGION (STUDY OF IDENTIFICATION ISSUES OF DEMOCRACY IN LAMPUNG)

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ABSTRACT

The practice of democracy in region especially in Indonesia is new political tradition in selecting a leader, making policy, and processing role of region government. In the process, the democracy in region shows that the political rights are not facing structure trouble and working effectively based on the democracy, but the process of democracy in region is emerging some issues

In Lampung, those democracy issues include the political rights ignored from marginal society, competition in elite politic level in competing political position with money politic. There are conflicts in government department and competition conflict for resources, the order of politic makes multi-interpretation, the process of making public policy, the independency of the election is not safe and still have imbalance toward development

There are some issues about democracy, it caused by the process of democracy is not purposed for developing system and healthy political culture and civilized. However, those problems tend to be used by political elite and businessman to compete the influence by seeking for authority and governing resources. The main instruments are not on the notion competition to make citizen to be educated politically and have awareness to choose the political rights rationally, but they tend to understand that democracy as competition arena for money power to take authority

Eventually, the representation of democracy in regions are unrelated to the wealth of citizen and not working in unusual process, unhealthy, out of morality, dishonest, and unfair

KEYWORDS: Political Rights, Procedure of Democracy, Power Competition

INTRODUCTION

The issues of democratization of government is new phenomenon in Indonesia, because the practices of region government in new order more less 32 years are not giving space for the development of democratization in regions. At the period, the process was known as the system of authoritative government (Mas'oed, 1989). In the system, the relation between leader and citizens represented as hierarchy and authoritative relation pattern. The regularity in government developed by the mechanism of authoritative system with using forces instruments as punishment and violation. The public policies were not made by agreement from every single person who got involve in making policy, but the policies were using the juridical authority in hierarchy relation pattern. In this political structure, leaders are easy to develop discipline, obedience, and regularity. (Pratikno, 2007)

The development of democracy in Lampung generally can not be separated to the process of democracy which is on going in Indonesia since 1999. The process of democracy in regions has been giving space for local political power for

instances, elite parties, entrepreneurships, region servants, and local figures to take influences in taking authority and resource in region leader election or legislative election. Meanwhile, the power of civil movement also gives influence to take the process of making policy in regions. These phenomena are output of freedom cooperation, freedom of giving opinion, freedom of gathering and actualization of political rights is representation of the democracy life in regions

However, the dynamics of democracy in Lampung will show the tendency of political behavior which influenced by social issues, cultures, economic and politic. All the aspects will make problems and characteristic of democracy that will become different with other regions in Indonesia

This study will discuss about the tendency of democracy development in Lampung, how the development and the consolidation of democracy in Lampung province will go and how to recognize Indonesia Democracy Index (IDI) Lampung and utilization for planning democracy development in Lampung Province

METHODS

This study uses desk research method which is based on secondary data. Data were taken from website and mass media. The analysis of data uses relevant theory studies, theory and democracy concept, political development and public policy

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

• The Situation and Condition of Contemporary Democracy in Lampung Province

The practice of democracy in Lampung generally is measured by Democracy Index, and Democracy Index in Lampung in 2011 ranked the best of three in Indonesia¹, but it does not mean the development of democracy dynamics in Lampung does not have problems. The problems are

• Political Rights of Marginalized Communities

The people of Moro-Moro in Register 45 Mesuji District is community forest Encroachment² who have lived in these locations decades ago. Moro-Moro residents who have suffrage in the elections of Mesuji lose their right to vote because of not having Identity Cards. In the government's view, the identity of residence status as evidenced by Identity Card (KTP) is a formal proof of a person domiciled in an administrative area. The essence and function Identity Cards is to demonstrate the existence and one's domicile. Identity card at the same time also shows a person's relationship with the government. So, do not enter the Mesuji District Government of Moro-Moro to the list of potential election voter population (DP4) only for formal judicial reasons they do not have the identity card as proof that they are not a permanent occupation in Mesuji District

Thus from the perspective of government tends to ignore the political rights of Moro-Moro people assessed illegal, in case they have a constitutional basis of political rights guaranteed by the 1945 Constitution.

¹) Lampung Province scored better democracy index during 2010 and 2011, where the National IDI in 2010 amounted to 63.17 and 65.48 in 2011 to the category of "moderate", while the IDI value of Lampung Province in 2010 amounted to 67.80 with the category "being" and in 2011 reached 74.08 index by category" medium (Report Survey IDI in Lampung, 2011)

²) Encroachment is the person or group of people who enter the forest to meet their needs by utilizing forest resources and potential carried out unlawfully and without permission from the authorities. For forest clearing by cutting and burning of forests for farming and making a home

The disappearance of the political rights of a person because they do not have identity cards, generally the lower layers of society that the existence of life have difficulty making them to survive in the forest had to be penetrated; existence solely for the benefit of the necessities of life, no other interests outside of it. Therefore, in this situation, it is difficult for them waking consciousness to obtain formal recognition from the government by way of their ID cards

While the government itself, have difficulty to acknowledge its existence because of government administrative procedures, their presence in the register 45 is not done by proving moving letter (Makhya, 2010)

- **Social-Politic Conflicts**

The intensity tends increased after new order in every region include Lampung. Every politic moment often emerge conflict for instance, in the beginning of regional election, the process of making public policy, etc. It represented as institutional conflict, for instance a conflict between head of district and representative of regional council, mobilization conflict supported by the candidates of head of district, competition to take resource, competition between local politicians, etc. Some of phenomenon in politic marked by abuses, opinion duel on press, provocative action and the conflicts do in bad way (Makhya, 2012)

- **Elite Locals Competition**

The competition between elite local emerged when the regional election for representative of regional council or direct election for head of district and competition on head of party election. In the case of regional election Lampung, the conflict was triggered by politician's interests. Head of party has absolute authority in supporting the candidate of head of district. They tend to sell the regional election for financial advantage

The characteristic of politic party does not have integrity and tend to sell the party as a tool to get money that will give implication to unhealthy politic competition. Those people who have money get chance to be supported and selected as the candidate of head of district or vice head of district. The recruitment procedure in the region is the candidate push conflict internal politic party, and also breaks the moral of democracy down

- **The Seizure Resources**

The politic competition in regional election is not only about how to take authority, but also keep the authority when the candidate gets the position in parliament. They would like to fill personal interests and tend to be stronger than do actualization for citizen interests. Therefore, visions and missions in program of head of district that noted in RPJM (The Medium Term Development Plan) tend to be formal and *unimplementation*

APBD is one of resources that used as a tool to get financial advantage, to symbolize political supports and to invest political things for next election. This argument supported by the factual evidence that about 60% head of district on regional election involved corruption cases³. In Lampung, those people who involved in corruption cases are: The Head of Central Lampung, The Head of South Lampung, and The Head of East Lampung

Therefore, there is a tendency in using authority that politicians do and head of district do to direct resources into certain way. This model tends to show conflict become extended, because the model can be a trigger of public resistance,

³) <http://www.jpnn.com/read/Kepala-Daerah-Terjerat-Korupsi->

unfairness in distributing the resource allocation and cause of corruption

- **The Order of Politic Games**

One of principles is obey to the order of play and being honest. However, in reality, the order of politic game (regulation of regional election) and the regulation of APBD arrangement tend to be fax unilateral interpretation. For instance, the bounds in money politic and the cost of politic can be regarded in diverse, the comprehending of politic campaign with socialization made to be fade, the requirements for head of district/vice of district are not operational (for instance, the bounds about how to be kind, and obey to God, never do bad things or recognize the region and known by the society)

In the arrangement of APBD (the regional budget), using social budget, distributing the allocation of APBD budgeting program, etc can be regarded unilaterally by the head of district and government parliament. The fax order of politic game, giving money, using authority to direct for interest in particular that implicate to unfair process of regional election. Elite politicians can us the chance to set the order of politic game and it can influence the public intensely

- **The Independency of Unsafe Election/ Regional Election**

Another issues is all regional election organizer integrity are unsafe, even some of them take a position in politic. Regional election eventually is hard to be held in honest and fair. The process of regional election does not guarantee that the election will be honest and fair, but it makes a big conflict between all candidates' supporter

All election organzier that take a place in politic and being dishonest, because they think KPU (*General Election Committee*) is one of strategic institution to develop the polite process of democracy, but they put KPU as a tool to get better life, whether they have purpose to get money or develop relationship for certain political interests. Meanwhile, the problem that faced often show dishonesty from all election organizer, and it is defunct to be proven juridical. The practice of changing the vote or money politic, it can be easily disregarded by the logic of law due to distrusted evidences. We can see the case like the violation of ethic code that done by the commissioner of KPU (General Election Committee), but the case it is already expired to be given to DKPP (Organizers Honorary Board of Election Republic of Indonesia)⁴

- **Public Policy Making Elite**

Nevertheless, The process of making public policy such as APBD (*the Regional Budget*) or local regulation require the process of policy deliberation, there are roles of citizen that involve in formal level. The arrangement of regional development budgeting tends to be elitist which the process shifted by formal figures (Regional Government and Head of Region), the substance tends representing the head of region, parliament and regional representative council's interests

This is must be a fact, if APBD (*The Regional Budget*) could make conflicts between citizen and regional government, head of region and regional representative council. The formation of making public policy that will give space for public budgeting especially in corruption, distribute an unfair resources allocation and personal interests /group interests or put family as priority rather than public interests. For instance, the controversial case is the mass protest to the

⁴) <http://nasional.inilah.com/read/detail/1920776/ketua-dan-anggota-kpu-tulang-bawang-dipecat>

building figure of Zainal Pagar Alam in South Lampung⁵, or using social budget for a few districts and Provinces⁶, saving APBD in East Lampung in Tripanca Bank that got in trouble until now⁷.

- **Filling the Inanition of Vice Head of Local Government**

There are three positions for vice district head in three sub-districts, they are South Lampung 2005-2010, East Lampung 2009-2014, and Mesuji District 2013-2018. That inanition caused by East Lampung regent got involve in criminal corruption case that he is still wanted. Meanwhile, in the vice regent of Mesuji got corruption case. According to the rule, the inanition of position of vice head of local government can be changed/chosen by Regional Representative Council, but till the limited time of South Lampung vice district head position that will not do in election, and there is no election in Mesuji District and East Lampung

Theses issues involved the difference about the order of law towards replacement of vice head of local government, because it full of conflict in seizing resource and seizing the influence of bureaucracy network to handle mass supports

To the perspective of democracy, the case of inanition of vice head of local government deliberately can not be held is one of political interventions towards citizen political rights for nominating on political positions. However, in this case, it can be comprehended that the order of law which does not have applying punishment and it can be broken by political officials

- **The Development Gap**

In Lampung, there are deprived four districts; West Lampung, Way Kanan, North Lampung and Pesawaran⁸. The fact shows that the development gap happened in Lampung and districts. The development gap is not caused by the management issues and how weak the leadership of head of district capacity, but the issue of authority phenomenon which is uncontrolled and the perception about head of district authority that can be comprehended as a tool to maximize the economic advantage, to fill social status, to develop authority, and keep feeling safe

As a consequences, the management of distributing resources authority that source from APBD and other budgeting sources tend to give chance to do corruption. The proportion of budget tend be bigger to purchase indirectly rather than purchase directly, and inefficiency budgeting

- **The Consolidation of Democracy in Lampung**

The development and the dynamic of democracy in Lampung still emerge some issues which is based on the democracy as a political option agreed together not for the purposes of developing system and healthy and polite political culture, but it tend to be used by elite politicians and those who have forces to take influence with the purpose by seeking authority and lead resource. The main instruments are not the notion competition to make the citizen to be educated politically and have awareness to choose the political rights rationally, but the democracy tends to be understood as the arena of power competition for taking authority. The democracy then works in the unusual process, unhealthy, out of

⁵) Lampung Post, April 22, 2014

⁶) Lampung Post, June 6, 2013.

⁷) <http://infokorupsi.com/id/>

⁸) Lampung Post, June 3, 2013

morality, dishonest, and unfair

The consolidation of democracy still has agenda to fix the democracy become polite. First, the most strategic way is cure politic parties. The reformation in internal party should be done by making parties become independent to not depend on source budget from state, developing trust by offering notion and alternative policy on public to encourage and develop prosperity for citizen, clean the parliaments up from corruption, doing the process of leader election and legislative parliament selectively by putting the candidates in front who have integrity, have ability to lead government and have mission to make a change to be better, and put the parties as media for fulfilling citizen interests

Second, The political regulation should be able to transform obvious, can be verified, have vision to develop democracy life substantively, can bound the dominance of money power income in the process of political competition and guarantee a fair political competition

Third, these important issues, the realization of clean government, the process of making public policy deliberatively, and strengthened civil society should be maintained by strong commitmen

Fourth, every person that takes in charge in election should be selected tightly, and then they are people who have integrity, have commitment to develop polite democracy and have professionalism to make the election become honest and fair

Fifth, in democracy era, the conflict is supposed to be happened, no worries if the conflicts will make notion to approach the stability and efficiency, something that should be prevented is the conflict is coming from unfairness and dishonesty due to the opposite principle itself

Sixth, there should be an effort from the government to do the development of government tend to be forgotten. The development focuses on the process of awareness to all citizens to be obey to the law, optimize the political rights, and have sensitivity to environment

- **Indonesian Democracy Index Lampung and Utilization for Planning the Development of Democracy in Lampung Province**

Bases on the indicators (*Indonesia Democracy Index*), to Lampung's case, there some indicators for instances, freedom of gathering and cooperate, freedom of giving opinion, and freedom of believe. There are no problems that significant, the issues tend autonomy and no intervention. However, other variables/indicators are freedom of discrimination, political rights, the role of region representative, honest and fair region election, and the role of region government still can be found as the basic issues

Those basic issues are not in formal level and the aspect of quantity, but on the substantive issues and the political similarity for all citizens. For instances, the role of regional representative council is not only regarded on the amount of regional rules that can be made, but how far the regional parliament (DPRD) has been fighting for citizens interests, capable of solving public issues, capable of offering policy and supervising toward the government works

For the location of education and health budgeting are not only demand from law to accommodate the budget of education as big as 20%, but how and where the budget will distribute and is that can answer the fairness dimension and the quality of education equally

The citizen's political rights to be chosen is not regarded as quality aspect, but it is important till how far the

rights of citizen lost the existence formally like forest crimes can be filled by the political rights. The political citizen rights also regarded by the level of political independency and it are not easy to be intervened with the power of money

Indonesia Democracy Index to Lampung province, if it is only can be regarded formal aspects and procedural will be trapped on the justification that the democracy in Lampung has been working well. The assessment of category has not meaning if it unanswered the problems the reality of democracy in region that still have problems and unanswered public problem. However, in the first step the measurement of democracy index, it needed as the evaluation for assisting the development of democracy in Indonesia

Meanwhile, the utilization of democracy index is to plan the development of politic in Lampung should be directed to solve the democracy issues in Lampung. There are some issues about democracy in Lampung which is relevant each other: First, Nation Integration, as far as it is, the regional government of Lampung province has not yet the concept in developing nation's integration. Even the tendency is unclear what should the government do in facing these issues. The effect of government's act tends reactive. The regional government just did the action after the conflict

These interests are to develop nation's nation in Lampung based on the identity of new culture in Lampung is not found yet the new pattern in interest context of politic development. It can develop strong and capable of ethnic's integration reducing ethnic conflicts

Therefore, the views give opinion that the integration issues between ethnic has been done and get strong the legitimacy sociology in society that actually has not been tested empirically. Based on the fact, the sentiment of ethnic always appear, even feel in reformation nowadays

Second, the problem of supervision effective, the supervision that parliaments or civil society do toward the process of government coordination has not been working effectively. The relationship between authority and parliaments with regional leader tend to be developed coordinately and pragmatically, thus often supervision only fulfill the agenda and formalistic. Meanwhile, the access of politic for citizens toward the supervision and the process of making policy tend weak

Third, the development of government problems, the problems focus on the role of government that is the process of awareness to all citizens for obeying the law, optimizing the political rights, and having the awareness toward environment

Fourth, implementation of good and clean government, in the practice of the government become one of government or sub-district missions, but the realization of program is not answer the problem of government bureaucracy

CONCLUSIONS

The democracy in region is a political option that could be accepted by citizens and become necessary to be done in regions. However, as the process of democracy works, there are some issues caused by the weak order in politic in selecting leader. The power of local politician's dominance in making public policy, ineffective the function of supervising, moral politic break down and the corroboration of money politic

The process of democracy eventually tends to be used by elite politicians and those who have forces to take influence each other and they have purpose to seek authority and lead resources. The main instruments are not the notion competition that has purpose to make citizens to be educated politically and have awareness in choosing political rights

rationally, but tend to be understood that democracy is competition arena for money power to take authority

The consolidation of democracy becomes an important aspect to develop polite and qualified democracy. The effort can be done by doing reformation in internal political party, making the regulation of politic that can arranger political behavior strictly and controlled, reinforcement civil society, commitment to maintain and develop clean government, strengthened deliberative democracy in the process of making public policy, develop independent election and make the development of government in regions

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